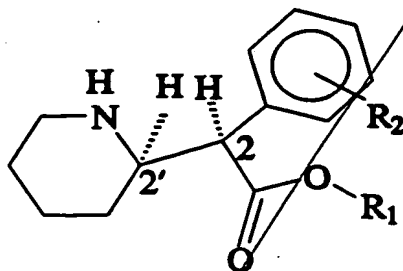


What is claimed is:

1. A pharmaceutical unit dosage comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound having the formula



- 5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein  $R_1$  is  $C_1 - C_4$  alkyl, and  $R_2$  is hydrogen or  $C_1 - C_4$  alkyl, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, said dosage having less than 10% by weight of other stereoisomers of the compound or salt.
- 10 2. The unit dosage of claim 1 wherein said compound is D-threo-methylphenidate.
3. The unit dosage of claim 2 comprising from about 1 to about 50 milligrams of D-threo-methylphenidate.
4. The unit dosage of claim 2 comprising from about 2 to about 20 milligrams of D-threo-methylphenidate.
5. The unit dosage of claim 2 comprising from about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to about 12 milligrams of D-threo-methylphenidate.
6. The unit dosage of claim 3 in a form suitable for oral administration.

7. The unit dosage of claim 5 in a form suitable for injection or infusion.
8. A pharmaceutical unit dosage of D-threo-methylphenidate substantially free of other stereoisomers of 5 methylphenidate.

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